

Attorney Docket # 10003787-1

Remarks

Claims 35-37 and 53-55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Mochizuki, *et al.* (U.S.P.N. 5,990,507). Claims 35, 36, 53, and 54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kanaya, *et al.* (20020063274 A1). Claims 38 and 56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mochizuki, *et al.* in view of Kanaya, *et al.*

Claims 39-41 and 57-59 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 39-41 and 57-59

Claims 39-41 and 57-59 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 39 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of base claim 35 and intervening claim 36. Claims 40 and 41 are believed to be patentable based on the allowability of now independent claim 39. Claim 57 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of base claim 53(?) and intervening claim 54. Claims 58 and 59 are believed patentable based on the allowability of now independent claim 57.

35 U.S.C. §102(b) – claims 35-37 and 53-55

Claims 35-37 and 53-55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Mochizuki, *et al.* (U.S.P.N. 5,990,507).

Claims 35-37 and 53-55 have been deleted.

35 U.S.C. §102(e) – claims 35, 36, 53, and 54

Claims 35, 36, 53, and 54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kanaya, *et al.* (20020063274 A1).

Claims 35, 36, 53, and 54 have been deleted.

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35 U.S.C. §103(a) – claims 38 and 56

Claims 38 and 56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mochizuki, *et al.* in view of Kanaya, *et al.*

Claims 38 and 56 have been deleted.

Conclusion

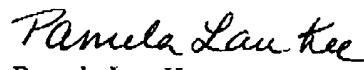
If the Examiner has any further questions or would like to discuss this application in more detail, he is invited to call the applicants' agent at the telephone number given below. The applicants respectfully suggest that the claims presently in the application are distinct over the prior art and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the applicants solicit favorable action.

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Respectfully submitted,

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